Disposal by direct sale can also be considered in the following order of priority to the agencies indicated below:

1. Other Ministries of the Central Government.

2. State Governments.

3. Local bodies.

4. Educational and Charitable Institutions.

5. Ex-Servicemen.

In the case of ex-Servicemen the offer will be only one building plot where the land is being sold after preparation of a layout.

Stopping of fresh recruitment in D.G.O.F.

2334. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
KUMARI SAYEEDA KHATUN:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether fresh recruitment to the Directorate General Ordnance Factories have been stopped; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) what would be the estimated savings likely to accrue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The general ban on recruitment imposed by Government in October 1984 was applicable to Ordnance Factories. This has been lifted in respect of factories whose staff strength have been refixed after completing a zero based budgeting review. In such factories, the vacancies arising on account of promotion, removal, resignation or death are permitted to be filled to the extent work-load warrants. In addition fresh recruitments are also being made in new factories and new projects in existing factories to the extent the requirement cannot be met by transfer of surplus labour from other areas.

(b) The reduction in staff strength in Ordnance Factories since October 1984 has been to the tune of 13,000 Nos. Estimated saving on this account is to the tune of Rs. 31 crores per annum.

Cases of promotion of Army Officers in the Courts

2335. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of cases relating to promotion that have been filed in various courts by the Army Officers (with ranks) during the last five years (year-wise);

(b) what is the number of cases that have been decided in their favour so far;

(c) whether law courts have made suggestions for review of certain aspects of the promotional policy in defence services; and

(d) if so, whether Government have reviewed the promotional policy to remove discontentment among the defence officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The requisite information is given in the statement. (See below).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Details of number of court cases relating to promotions filed by army officers

Year	Maj	Lt. Col.	Col.	Brig.	Maj. Gen.	Total
1987	7	9	2	—	—	18
1988	5	11	2	1	—	19
1989	5	15	10	6	1	37
1990	14	15	13	3	—	45
1991	4	15	10	1	1	31

Details of number of cases decided in favour of the petitioners

Year	Maj.	Lt. Col.	Col.	Brig.	Maj. Col.	Total
1987	1	2	—	—	—	3
1988	1	1	—	—	—	2
1989	1	2	1	—	—	4
1990	1	1	—	1		3
1991	1	1	3	—	—	5

Sale of F. Fighters by North Corporation of U.S.A. to India

2336. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the North Corporation, a US company has offered to sell to India U.S. production assembly to manufacture F. 5. fighters and spare parts to replace old Soviet supplied MIG 21s;

(b) whether it is also a fact that certain western arms makers have offered to fill the military supply gap left by the Soviet Union with its break up;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what is the decision, if any, taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) M/s. Northern Corporation of USA had offered F-5E aircraft to IAF.

(b) to (d) Offers, both solicited and unsolicited, continue to be received from time to time for the supply of Defence equipment from various manufacturers of eastern and western countries. Offers received from western sources are not linked with any gap in the military supply stated to have been caused by the break-up of the former USSR. All offers received are considered with reference to the Defence requirements of the country and appropriate decisions are taken. It will not be in the public interest to divulge the details of offers received and the decisions taken thereon.